



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: December 7, 2010
TO: Mayor and Councilmembers
FROM: Community Services Division, Police Department
SUBJECT: Proposed Changes To Animal Control Licensing Fees

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt, by reading of title only, A Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Amending Resolution No. 10-044 to Establish Certain Dog and Cat Licensing Fees and Adjust Animal Control Fees.

DISCUSSION:

On June 29, August 24, and September 28, 2010, the Ordinance Committee held meetings eliciting public comment and discussion on the subject of creating an ordinance similar to the County of Santa Barbara, pertaining to the spaying and neutering of pets. On October 5, 2010, Council unanimously passed an ordinance revising the Santa Barbara Municipal Code, Chapter 6.12, providing for consultation with a veterinarian prior to ownership of an unaltered animal by residents of Santa Barbara. Currently, the state of California requires residents to license dogs, however; there is no such licensing requirement for cats. The recently passed City Ordinance requires residents to license unaltered cats. The Ordinance also authorizes Council to establish a license surcharge to be earmarked into a special City fund. This City fund will be used at the discretion of the Chief of Police in funding City educational outreach activities regarding the possible concerns of owning an unaltered pet and to encourage City pet owners to be responsible in the ownership and maintenance of an unaltered pet. In addition to the one and two year issued pet licenses, the Ordinance further directed the issuance of six month and three year pet licenses.

On August 1, 2010, the Police Department began contracting for the issuance of approximately 6,000 annual animal licenses with the private company PetData. The current contract includes only dog licenses, issued in increments of one and two years and does not provide for cat licensing. The modified proposed Animal Licensing Fee Schedule will include provisions for licensing unaltered cats as well as include options for the addition of six month and three year licensing. The proposed fee schedule bifurcates the City licensing fee and the administration fees associated with processing through PetData.

Additionally, it is the recommendation of the Police Department that the unaltered pet license surcharge for outreach programs be placed at \$10.00 per license. Outreach programs will be

guided by Council and implemented by City Animal Control staff in a manner to best serve pet owners.

PROPOSED ANIMAL LICENSING FEE SCHEDULE:

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Admin. Fee</u>
• One year dog/cat regular fee	\$50.00	\$4.00
• One year dog altered fee:	\$25.00	\$4.00
• One year senior citizen dog/cat regular fee:	\$25.00	\$4.00
• One year senior citizen dog altered fee:	\$12.50	\$4.00
• Two year dog/cat regular fee:	\$100.00	\$6.00
• Two year dog altered fee	\$50.00	\$6.00
• Two year senior citizen dog/cat regular fee:	\$50.00	\$6.00
• Two year senior citizen dog altered fee:	\$25.00	\$6.00
• All late penalty fees	\$25.00	\$2.50
• Duplicate tag:	\$12.00	\$4.00
• Senior citizen duplicate tag:	\$6.00	\$4.00

	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Admin. Fee</u>
• Six month dog/cat regular fee:	\$25.00	\$4.00
• Six month dog altered fee:	\$12.50	\$4.00
• Six month senior citizen dog/cat regular fee:	\$12.50	\$4.00
• Six month senior citizen dog altered fee	\$6.25	\$4.00
• Three year dog/cat regular fee:	\$150.00	\$8.00
• Three year dog altered fee:	\$75.00	\$8.00
• Three year senior citizen dog/cat regular fee:	\$75.00	\$8.00
• Three year senior citizen dog altered fee:	\$37.50	\$8.00
• Unaltered outreach fee*	\$10.00	\$0.00

* Outreach fee to be added to unaltered license, no administrative fee necessary.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

With the addition of unaltered cat licensing, revenues are expected to increase slightly; however, with the addition of six-month and 3-year licensing options, revenue streams will fluctuate from year to year.

PREPARED BY: David Whitham, Administrative Services Lieutenant

SUBMITTED BY: Cam Sanchez, Chief of Police

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office